**George Washington**

**Steven Wright**

As a young country, the United States needed a trusted leader as president. They automatically chose George Washington since he has and still would risk his life for his land. But how will he run this growing nation? This question is answered due to his many challenges and accomplishments.

The French Revolution took many tolls on Americans. Washington demanded neutrality, but still, citizens took sides with political parties. The French tried to ask for recruits, but Washington ordered the proclamation of Neutrality, ending all hope for the war. Many wanted to fight for Mother Britain, but people’s opinions changed when the British captured American vessels and enrolled the crews for war. John Jay was then sent by the president to make an effort for peace with Britain. In Jay’s Treaty the Europeans had to leave our land, pay for destruction of ships, and allow trade. However, this made Spain feel worried about their territory being possibly overrun. Another treaty ratified during George Washington’s administration was Pinckney’s Treaty, which gave America control over the Mississippi River.

After the revolutionary war, a huge national dept arose. Taxes were put mainly on whiskey, which suddenly drove farmers mad since they had to pay extra for what they sold. Protests in the streets alarmed the president, and with a great risk, he marched an army toward their position, crushing the rebellions.

Many Native Americans thought they could not be thrown off their land because of the newcomers, but farmers kept pushing their property west. Outraged, the Indians commonly attacked settlers in the Ohio territory. Washington tried to weaken the tribes’ courage with battles, making the matter even worse. He attempted once more, and successfully formed a treaty exchange with the natives, known as the Treaty of Greenville. With this treaty, Americans can now own most of the Indian land (Ohio).

With the help of Congress, George Washington set up a nation court system. Although some might have debated on whether there should be a state court instead, the Judiciary Act of 1789 created a federal court (13 districts and 3 circuits). Eventually, the Supreme Court developed. Led by John Jay, this created a strong and national judiciary.

The majority of Americans only know half of what Washington really did for this country. From bloody wars to peace treaties, he was always there, protecting his country for the future. After his death in 1799, the states knew exactly who George Washington was: a brave, confident hero.